

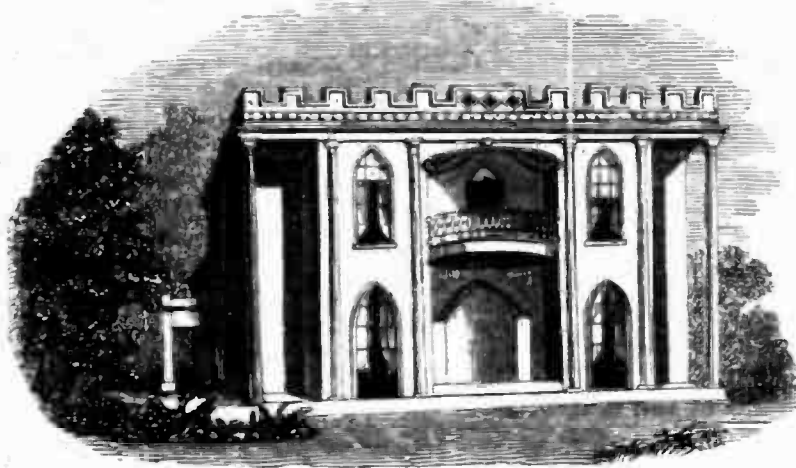


officiate in the said cure, and allow a competent maintenance for him, or shew cause to of May next."

We have thought to amuse our readers by this much of an extract from a local work, which so far enters into the general history of Dadlington Church; beyond this, we have little to aid us, and as our present purpose is with the architectural aspect of the church, we care less to enter into historical particulars, or more matter of narrative. It strikes us that the present roofs have been added in the period of half-timbered erections, and that no mean talent of the quiet, secluded district in which Dadlington is situated has been called into request, to recrown this church on the decay of the original roof. No man will stand to dispute with us that this attic—for so we suppose we must call it (it is not a clere-story)—has not a charm and an appropriateness infinitely superior to all the bald cuttings-down of later emendators. Would that the substructure of our ancient churches had been always so worthily and so reverentially canopied as this is—where the ravages of time and desolation of years had claimed, as this no doubt did, protection; here are germs of style, and style for churches too, in this little picture that it would be well for our young architects to turn their minds to, but we fear, on the other hand, that the mannerism, or the dogmatism, of the day may deter. Churches with iron roofs, and an attic on this principle, would, thrown from the hand of the artist, be susceptible of exquisite beauty of general character, and, above all things, in detail, and with the lights thus raised, the walls would be left in their full breadth and scope for painting and sculpture. We are not to be told that the magazine of pure devotional art has been ransacked and cleared out; it has not been more than looked into; and we protest that we are pleased to have to submit this undeniably pretty church to our readers, in the hope that it may be as the fertile seed of an expansion of ideas the fruits of which our young architects are destined to bear, for their own and their country's advantage.

ROSE HILL VILLA, HAMPSHIRE.

(The Walls built of Mud.)



HOUSES BUILT OF MUD.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE BUILDER.

SIR,—I have been a reader of your invaluable paper since its commencement, and have gained much useful knowledge from it. This useful knowledge I feel as something for that to rest upon which you have yet in store for me, as you think my mind is prepared to imbibe it.

In perusing THE BUILDER, I have found descriptions of buildings built of timber, stone, brick, &c., but not any with mud: I think it time we

should have a little of the mud, or we shall get, I am afraid, so lofty in our aspirations that some of us will lose ourselves. Permit me, then, if a little of it will not soil your columns, to inform my brother readers how much we think of it, and how we use it, in this part of the country.

The above represents a villa built of mud, as we choose to call it. The walls are carried above the ground two and sometimes three feet with brick-work (depending on the locality), to prevent the damp from rising to the mud, which, if it gets in, the action of the frost would make it scale off.

ADLINGTON Church, dedicated to St. James, bears marks of great antiquity; and, by some late repairs, makes a decent appearance. It has a small wooden turret, with two bells, on one of which is inscribed "E. Arnold fecit, 1793."

The entrance to the chapel is through a porch on the south side. There was within memory a large old door on the north side, now stopped up. Part of the arch remains filled up with modern brickwork. At the west end is a very old circular font; and on the south side of the chancel are two piscinas. In the inside is a very old town chest, without date.

In this chapel (1810) remains a large folio Bible, in black letter, imprinted by Robert Barker, 1613, in very good preservation, from which the lessons are now constantly read.

"Nov. 30, 1646. Upon consideration had of the petition of the parishioners of Dadlington, in the county of Leicester, a copy whereof is hereto annexed; for that the said rectory, as by the said petition is alleged, is inappropriate to the Dean of Westminster, by whom the cure of the said church is maintained: This Committee do recommend the same to the committee for the said rectory, who are desired to take the same into their serious consideration, and to do thereupon as they in their serious wisdom shall think meet."

"April 20, 1648. Upon information that — Salisbury, Esq., farmer, of the impropriation of Dadlington, in the county of Leicester, under the Dean and Chapter of Westminster, being by his lease enjoined to provide for the cure of the church of Dadlington aforesaid, did usually heretofore allow but 5 marks, and *sithence* but 5*l.* a year, for the maintenance of a minister, whereby the said parish has been supplied with scandalous ministers, and is now wholly destitute of any: It is ordered that the said Mr. Salisbury do provide some godly and orthodox divine to the contrary before this committee on the 18th

The kind of earth used in this part of the country is fine chalk dug from the surface; if timely notice of any intended building will permit, it is best dug in winter that the frost may act upon it. Buildings, built of this material, can be done only in dry warm weather. The workmen, in preparing this chalk for use, put about a cart-load of it together, throw water over it, tread it with their feet, turn it over, again tread and turn it until it begins to bind, something like loamy clay, then let it soak a little while, when it is ready for use. The waller is able to put on a layer of about fifteen inches; he begins at one corner, and goes round the building, putting one layer on another, taking care that the lower one is sufficiently dry to bear the other. In buildings of two stories high, the walls are generally about eighteen inches thick. When the walls are got up five or six feet, and pretty dry, the quoins are plumbed, and the walls dressed down a little, in order that the waller may see what he is about. A small short spade is the best tool for this purpose, with short handle and rather bent. The work is then proceeded with as before, until the walls are got up to the square of the building, when the walls get their general dressing, ready to receive their coating. The building the above represents is coated with stone lime, coloured and drawn. There are many buildings of this kind in Stockbridge, Winchester, and several other places in this neighbourhood.

A much better plan for constructing earthen walls than the one I have described above; is recommended in a work by William Wilds, surveyor, for the peasantry and emigrants; this consists in having a wooden box or trough made strong, and on a principle that it will take from together in parts. I do not recollect the size he gives, but I should say about twelve feet long, by eighteen inches deep. This trough will rest on bearers put across the wall, with a mortice at each end wide enough apart to receive the sides, and the thickness of the wall; in these are inserted uprights to prevent the sides giving way, with other pieces to go across the